

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00759 280845Z

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ACTION H-03

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R 280730Z APR 76
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5546
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 759

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (PRICE, MELVIN) CH, HK, TW

SUBJECT: PRESS COMMENTS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. NCNA'S FOREIGN LANGUAGE "NEWS FROM FOREIGN AGENCIES & PRESS" FOR APRIL 27 CARRIES A LENGTHY AP STORY (WASHINGTON, APRIL 26) REPORTING REP. WOLFF'S COMMENTS ON HIS VISIT TO THE PRC AS A MEMBER OF CODEL PRICE. STORY INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING MATERIAL ON HONG KONG AND TAIWAN: BEGIN QUOTE:

AS TO HONG KONG, HE WAS TOLD THAT "WHEN THE LEASE (WITH THE BRITISH) IS UP, HONG KONG WILL AGAIN BECOME PART OF CHINA." HE ADDED THAT "I DO NOT CONSIDER THAT A THREAT. I CONSIDER IT A STATEMENT OF FACT."
...THE CHINESE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, BEFORE WE IN THE U.S. CAN PROCEED WITH ANY REAL TRADE, OR WITH BILATERAL RELATIONS, WE MUST COME TO GRIPS WITH WHAT THE CHINESE CONSIDER TO BE THEIR NATIONAL INTEREST. CHINA DEMANDS THAT WE GIVE OVER TAIWAN TO THEM, WHICH THEY SAY THEY WILL ATTEMPT TO WIN OVER POLITICALLY. HOWEVER, THE CHINESE DID NOT RULE OUT MILITARY ACTION TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS." END QUOTE.
END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF CHINESE SOURCE FOR THE ABOVE COMMENTS ON TAIWAN. DURING THE VISIT REP. WOLFF TOLD US HOWEVER THAT THE STATEMENT ABOUT HONG KONG, MORE OR LESS AS QUOTED ABOVE,
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CAME FROM ONE OF THE CPIFA INTERPRETERS WITH THE CODEL,

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION WOLFF PUT TO HIM ON THIS SUBJECT. WE
HAVE PROVIDED THIS BACKGROUND ON THE HONG KONG ITEM TO THE
BRITISH EMBASSY HERE.
THAYER

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NNN

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